



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

KIRK T. STEUDLE
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2006

CONTACT: Bill Shreck, Director of Communications, 517-335-3084

Small urban areas in 20 counties to receive more than \$7 million in federal transportation funding

August 10, 2006 - - The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has announced that small urban areas in 20 Michigan counties will receive more than \$7 million in FY 2008 in federal transportation funding for road improvements and transit projects that range from resurfacing and reconstructing roads to purchasing buses. The federal funding is awarded at a maximum of \$375,000 per project to small urban areas with a population base of 5,000 to 50,000. Agencies receiving federal dollars must provide a 20 percent match in funds.

"This is a program unique to Michigan that benefits Michigan residents. It will spark economic development that will lead to jobs in small urban communities from Au Sable to Tecumseh," said Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm, "and enable local residents to enjoy better roads and improvements to transit services."

Communities to receive funding in 2008 include: Au Sable, Belding, Big Rapids, Cadillac, Caro, Coldwater, Dowagiac, Durand, Fremont, Holly, Houghton Lake, Ionia, Lapeer, Lowell, Manistee, Marquette, Midland, Plainwell-Otsego, Richmond, Tecumseh and Traverse City.

Communities can use the money to invest in their federal aid road system or for public transit capital improvements. Distributed through MDOT, the funds will be available at the start of the department's 2008 fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2007.

To be eligible for funding, projects must be within the federal aid urban area boundary and located on the federal aid highway system. MDOT initiated the program in 1991 in an effort to invest federal transportation dollars in small urban communities in Michigan.

###

Protect Michigan families: Where Workers Present Drive 45!
- A message from MDOT and Michigan's Give 'em a Brake Safety Coalition